L. H. J. to Head one of the Companies and on his Refusal they desired him Liber No. 52
Dec. 11

to acquaint the People at Annapolis that they were coming

10.th Dec.r 1765

Evan Shelby

In the Council Chamber Taken and Sworn before Copy Henry Hooper

Doctor David Ross deposeth and saith That some Time before the 1.st of last Nov.r viz About the 27.th or 29.th of last October he was at a place called Sharpesburgh in Frederick County where M. Toseph Chapline was then making over sundry Lots in that Town to persons who had purchased them of the said Chapline and that the said persons being solicitous to get their Conveyances perfected before the Stamp Act should take Place Col.º Sam. Beall attended as a Magistrate to take the Acknowledgments of M.r Chapline that some Time in the Evens of that Day when the above Business was transacted Mr Chapline was told that there was an Express come to him upon which he left the Company and returning in a very short Time produced a Writing to the people who were assembled and told them he had received it by Express from Col.º Thomas Cresap in Order to get it signed by the People that M. Chapline gave the Writing to Col.º Beall to read it to the People there met and that it was a Writing addressed to the Lower House of Assembly in Substance as follows to the best of this Deponents Memory and Belief Viz It expressed a Satisfaction of the Conduct of the Lower House in opposing the Stamp Act and intimated a Reliance that they would endeavour like the renowned ancient true Roman State to suppress any future Attempt to deprive them of their Liberty it also expressed that the Signers were informed that a very large unjust Claim in Tobo was made against the Public by parlar Gent in Annap.s preventing the payment of other just Claims and desiring that if the said unjust and dishonourable Claims should still be insisted upon that the Lower House would give speedy Intelligence in Order that the Signers might come down and cause justice to take Place This Deponent saith that after the said Writing was read by Col.º Beall he this Deponent read it and counted the N.º who had then signed it to be p. 326 about 35 but that none of the Company present when the said Writing was produced did sign it in the presence of this Depon. This Depon. rembers that M.r Chapline jocularly asked Col.º Beall if he would sign who answered that he did not like Hanging or Words to that Effect And this Depon.t saith that observing the Writing to be of a threatening Nature he jocularly asked if no more Riffle Men could be got from above and that it was then said by some of the Company that it was one of the Old Col.'s Schemes by whom he understood Col.º Cresap to be meant

Council Chamber 11.th Dec.r 1765 Sworn before Henry Hooper

David Ross